



## The Continuum of Care For the City and County of Racine, U.A.

### Mission

The mission of the Continuum of Care for the City and County of Racine, U.A. (CoC, U.A.) is to end homelessness in Racine County through the identification and implementation of strategies to prevent homelessness, provide emergency shelter, transitional housing, permanent supportive housing and supportive services to homeless households.

### Purpose

The CoC, U.A. was formed in 1996 as the Homeless Assistance Coalition as a collaborative community based effort to coordinate services, share information, increase funding, and eliminate duplication and gaps in services for homeless individuals and families. In 2013 the organization became an unincorporated association in the State of Wisconsin. In 2016 it received IRS status as a 501(c)(3) foundation.

- **Members.** Membership is open to all interested stakeholders including homeless and homeless prevention providers, currently or formerly homeless persons, community based organizations, private businesses, funders and governmental entities and members of the community.
- **Goals.** The CoC, U.A. seeks to provide a coordinated continuum of services to prevent and respond to issues of homelessness in the greater Racine area.
- **Prevention.** The CoC, U.A. works to prevent homelessness by supporting and coordinating the provision of a continuum of services to address those issues which may contribute to homelessness, including; a lack of adequate safe and affordable housing, a lack of affordable and universally accessible transportation; barriers to obtaining education; domestic violence; alcohol and other drug abuse; a lack of employment opportunities which provide the opportunity to support a family; a lack of adequate and affordable health care; poverty; and discrimination based on race, religion, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, socioeconomic or citizenship status; physical, geographic, attitudinal or language barriers to accessing resources
- **Community Needs Assessment.** The CoC, U.A. contributes to efforts to develop an effective and efficient way to accurately assess the extent and variety of problems associated with homelessness in the greater Racine area.
- **Coordinate Resources.** The CoC, U.A. supports and implements efforts to coordinate the provision of resources to prevent or address homelessness by: sharing information; identifying and reducing duplications in services, and identifying and reducing gaps in services.
- **Outreach, Intake and Assessment.** Members of the CoC , U.A. provide outreach, intake and assessment for those persons who may be homeless, or who are at risk of being homeless.
- **Emergency Shelter.** Members of the CoC, U.A. provide and/or support those who provide emergency shelter, food, and clothing to those who are homeless.
- **Transitional Housing.** The CoC , U.A. members provide and/or support those who provide transitional housing to those who may otherwise be homeless.
- **Permanent Housing.** Members of the CoC, U.A. provide and/or support those who provide permanent housing, including Permanent Supportive Housing, Rapid Re-Housing, and market based housing to those who are homeless.
- **Supportive Services.** Members of the CoC, U.A. provide and/or support those who provide supportive services including: information and referral; mental health; social services; civil legal services; health care; education; and job seeking; training and employment.



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## Membership Agreement

As a member of the Continuum of Care for the City and County of Racine, U.A. I agree to support the goals and objectives of the organization.

**Attendance:** I agree to regularly attend general meetings of the organization, and meetings of committees of which I am a member, or to send a representative for my organization.

**HUD CoC Collaborative Applicant:** I agree to support the efforts of the CoC, U.A. in its support of the HUD CoC Collaborative Applicant with its responsibility to carry out the HUD regulations and initiatives, a summary follows.

**Chronic Homelessness, Families and Children, Youth and Veterans:** I understand that the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) has established initiatives to end homelessness for these populations. I agree to support these initiatives.

**Data Collection** I agree to comply with requirements for the collection and reporting of data that will help to secure funding and to provide coordinated services to those affected by homelessness. These efforts include:

- **Census** enumeration of homeless individuals and families through focus groups, shelter counts, street counts and other efforts;
- **Needs assessment** evaluation of the needs of homeless individuals and families, and the sub-population categories into which they fall;
- **Assessment of resources** evaluation of the numbers and kinds of beds and other services available to serve homeless individuals and families;
- **Homeless Management Information System (HMIS)** I understand that if I am an employee of an agency that is a HUD funded direct service provider to homeless persons that HUD has mandated the use of HMIS for the collection. Agencies that meet the VAWA definition of Domestic Violence Service provider are prohibited from entering client data directly into HMIS but are required to provide aggregate data or a comparable data system.
- **Mainstream Resources** HUD has mandated that homeless individuals and families be referred to mainstream resources, including but not limited to: Medicaid, State Children’s Health Insurance Program (SCHIP), TANF, Food Stamps, SSI, Workforce Investment Act, and Veterans Health Care; and that the referral, access, and utilization of these resources be tracked in HMIS for each person.

**Dues** \$100.00 per organization or \$25.00 for individuals not associated with an organization (employee, board, committee). There are no dues for persons who are currently homeless.

Dues are for the period 1/1-12/31 and are assessed on February 1 of each year. Make check out to the Continuum of Care for the City and County of Racine, U.A.

(Mail check and agreement to Kevin Mieczkowski, 1620 Pratt Avenue, Racine, WI 53403)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Organization \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_

Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Fax \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

The Continuum of Care for the City and County of Racine, U.A. is a 501(c)(3) foundation. EIN 81-3907380

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